ECONIC PARTNERS

FRANCISCO J. ESPINOSA

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Competition economics, law and policy (EU): mergers, abuse of dominance, and damages analysis
- Quantitative and theoretical methods: modelling, econometrics, merger simulation, computational modelling (Python/R/Stata/Matlab)

INDUSTRIES OF EXPERTISE AND CASE HIGHLIGHTS

- Digital and platform markets (including digital regulation and compliance topics)
- Retail and other consumer-facing industries with local elements of competition
- Trade remedies / public sector experience (anti-dumping and international trade policy)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2026 – current	Associate | Econic Partners (Brussels)
2024 – 2026	Senior Managing Consultant | Berkeley Research Group (Brussels)
2023 – 2024	Senior Associate | Positive Competition (Brussels)
2021 – 2023	Associate | Positive Competition (Brussels)
2019 – 2021	Postdoctoral Researcher | Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
2016 – 2018	Commissioner | Foreign Trade Commission, Government of Argentina
2016 – 2017	Acting Chairman | Foreign Trade Commission, Government of Argentina
2016 – 2016	Advisor to the Secretary of Commerce | Department of Production, Government of Argentina
2010 – 2011	Project Analyst (Public Policy for Infrastructure) | Fundación Pensar (Think Tank)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

PhD in Economics | Graduate School of Arts & Science, New York University	*2011 – 2019* *(on leave 06/2016 – 08/2018)*
MA in Economics | Graduate School of Arts & Science, New York University	*2011 – 2013*
MA in Economics | Dept of Economics, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina)	*2009 – 2011*
BA in Economics | Dept of Economics, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina)	*2005 – 2009*

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- Article nominated for Concurrences Antitrust Writing Awards 2026 (Best Business Article – Mergers)
- MacCracken Fellow, Graduate School of Arts & Science, NYU (Sep 2011 – May 2016)
- Full scholarship, MA in Economics, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Mar 2009 – Dec 2010)

- "Young Researcher" Prize, XLIV Meeting, Argentinian Association of Political Economy (Nov 2009)
- Third Prize, papers on distributional, labor and social issues in Latin America, CEDLAS – Universidad Nacional de La Plata (Nov 2009)
- Best Undergraduate Thesis, Department of Economics, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Aug 2009)

SELECTED CONSULTING ENGAGEMENTS

- MOL/OMV Slovenija (EC Case M.10438).
- Microsoft Teams (EC Case AT.40721) and Microsoft Teams II (EC Case AT.40873).
- Dr Liza Lovdahl Gormsen v Meta Platforms, Inc. and Others (CAT, UK).
- "A Dynamic Framework for the Assessment of Horizontal Mergers" (Feb 2026), commissioned by GSMA with support from Connect Europe.
- BlaBlaCar Ukraine (Ukraine's first digital antitrust case).
- JetBlue/Spirit (Costa Rica).

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Too good to be true? Retention rules for noisy agents (with D. Ray), *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, 15(2), 2023, pp. 493–535.
- A principal-agent relationship with no advantage to commitment (with D. Ray and R. Vohra), *Pure and Applied Functional Analysis*, 6(5), 2021, pp. 1043–1064.
- A "Local Markets Lab": Are our merger screens doing what we think they're doing? (with A. Olmedo), available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=6177623, Feb 2026.
- Do local merger screens work? Evidence from a "Local Markets Lab" (with A. Olmedo), BRG Insights (Feb 2026).
- Horizontal mergers, coordinated effects and multi-market contact (with J. Franaszek), available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=5146416, Apr 2025.
- How competing in multiple markets can affect merger assessment (with J. Franaszek), BRG ThinkSet Magazine (Spring 2025) – nominated for Concurrences Antitrust Writing Awards 2026 (Business – Mergers).
- Defining digital ecosystems from a competition perspective (with M. Laborde), 2024.
- Corruption and political turnover over the business cycle: Theory and evidence (Job market paper), 2020.
- A formal framework for anti-dumping investigations, NYU mimeo, 2020.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Argentina Discussion Leader, Trade Remedies Working Group Ministerial Meeting, US–Argentina Commercial Dialogue, Washington DC (Oct 27, 2016).
- Organizer, Trade Remedies Technical Exchange, US–Argentina Commercial Dialogue, Buenos Aires (Sep 28–29, 2016).